



# ALL THINGS NEW

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STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

PARISH WORKBOOK  
ST. JOSEPH - IMPERIAL

# ABOUT YOUR PARISH WORKBOOK

- This parish workbook is designed to equip pastors and key parish leaders with data about the Archdiocese of St. Louis, your local planning area, and your parish.
- The data contained in this parish workbook has been gathered over the past twenty years from your parish and other parishes across the Archdiocese.
- This parish workbook should be used as an internal planning tool to help shape your reflections on the current strengths and opportunities for future growth of ministry and evangelization in the future.
- To help ensure accuracy of information, parishes are requested to limit the distribution of the information contained in this parish workbook to the pastor, parish staff, key parish leaders, and key advisory bodies. Information summarizing this data will be made available in the fall 2022 for parishioners across the Archdiocese.



# ALL THINGS NEW PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you sent your Son Jesus as the first Evangelizer of the Good News.

Send forth the power of the Holy Spirit upon the Church of St. Louis and grant us the gift of true discernment so we may do your will in all things.

Help us be totally free to follow wherever you lead us, totally generous to be good stewards of your many gifts, and totally passionate to suffer all in order to be more closely united to you.

Commissioned by your Son and empowered by the Spirit to “Go and Make Disciples of all Nations,” strengthen us by the power of your grace as we bring the Good News of Salvation into the lives of all those we touch, so that individual hearts and all of society may be converted to you and all things might be made new.

Inspired by the apostolic zeal of previous generations, as we begin the process of planning for the future, may our only desire be to do all things for the greater glory and honor of your name and for the good of your people in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## GUIDING TEXTS

### REV. 21:3-5

*I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them.*

*He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, the old order has passed away.”*

*The one who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” Then he said, “Write these words down, for they are trustworthy and true.”*





## GUIDING TEXTS EVANGELII NUNTIANDI (#18)

*For the Church, evangelizing means bringing the Good News into all the strata of humanity, and through its influence transforming humanity from within and making it new: "Now I am making the whole of creation new."*

*But there is no new humanity if there are not first of all new persons renewed by Baptism and by lives lived according to the Gospel.*







## GUIDING TEXTS JOY OF THE GOSPEL (#27)

*I dream of a “missionary option”, that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today’s world rather than for her self-preservation.*



# STRATEGIC PASTORAL PLANNING INITIATIVE OUTCOME

**Develop a plan that will make all things new enabling a vibrant Catholic presence in every square mile of the Archdiocese of St. Louis for the next century**

## **A Renewed Church**

Gospel renewal in our parishes, schools, and other ministry efforts

## **A Renewed Mission**

Enhance our evangelization efforts to those on the margins of society

## **A Vibrant Future**

Secure a vibrant future for the Church of St. Louis



# STRATEGIC PASTORAL PLANNING INITIATIVE

## GOALS

1. **Unceasing Prayer.** Engage all individual Catholics to reflect upon the need for Jesus Christ in their daily lives and call upon the Holy Spirit to guide our actions to fully share the love of the Lord in every encounter.
2. **Unifying Vision.** Articulate and implement a vision for evangelization that empowers and expects every baptized Catholic to spread the Gospel message and ensures a Catholic presence in every square mile of the Archdiocese of St. Louis through missionary outreach, parish and school footprint, and dynamic leadership.
3. **Intentional Stewardship.** Define and develop a plan that will appropriately reallocate resources throughout the Archdiocese of St. Louis that will be supported by structures at the diocesan, parish, school, and agency levels to ensure long-term viability and vibrancy of the Catholic presence.





# ALL THINGS NEW TIMELINE





# ALL THINGS NEW

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STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

OUR DIOCESE  
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

# ABOUT OUR DIOCESE

- The Archdiocese of St. Louis is 178 parishes encompassing the City of St. Louis and 10 surrounding counties – a large and diverse territory: urban, suburban and rural.
- Our local church has been declining for several decades as older Catholics die and there are insufficient number of young Catholics to take their place.
- This is best exemplified by the significant decline in the number of births and baptisms in our diocese.
- As our Catholic population has moved from the city to the near suburbs and from the near suburbs to the farther out suburbs, this has resulted in too few priests in large parishes and too many priests in small parishes.
- Our diocesan priests are aging and number of priests to serve our Catholic population is declining.
- Over the past decade, Mass attendance has been on a steady decline. The long-term implications of COVID are unknown, but the rebound in Mass attendance from 2020 to 2021 still leaves us 25% below pre-COVID levels.



# OUR TERRITORY FOR EVANGELIZATION



# OUR CATHOLIC POPULATION CONTINUES TO DECLINE

- In 2021, the number of Catholics in the Archdiocese of St. Louis dipped below 500,000 for first time since the 1960s.
- We have more baptisms than funerals and we have nearly 1,000 enter the church each year. Our numbers should be growing by 2,000 per year.
- As many as 5,000 Catholics are “leaving” the Church – OR – not re-engaging in the Church after high school or college.



# OUR CATHOLIC POPULATION IS AGING RESULTING IN FEWER YOUNG PEOPLE

## The Landscape in the United States

- In the last decade, the percentage of the adult population claiming no religious affiliation (the “nones”) grew from 17% to 26%.
- In the last decade, the percentage of the millennial population claiming no religious affiliation grew from 27% to 40%.

## The Landscape in the Archdiocese of St. Louis

Our baptism and marriage trends reflect the national landscape, as they are half of what they were 20 years ago.





# WEEKLY SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE CONTINUES TO DECLINE

- Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Mass attendance was declining between 0.5% to 1% per year.
- Mass attendance hit a record low in October 2020 which is attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- While Mass attendance in October 2021 showed a significant increase from 2020, it was still 25% lower than Mass attendance in October 2019.
- In 2019, only 33% of our pews were occupied during the typical weekend Mass. By 2021, only 25% of our pews were occupied during the typical weekend Mass.



# FEWER BAPTISMS HAVE RESULTED IN FEWER CHILDREN IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AND PSR

- Though we educate a higher percentage of children in our Catholic schools than nearly any other diocese (37%), enrollment continues to decline.
- During the last decade, PSR enrollment has declined faster than day school enrollment.
- Our current model of Catholic elementary schools cannot continue.
  - Only 40-50% of our elementary school children live in the boundaries of their parish school.
  - The cost to educate our students continues to outpace tuition increases.
  - Parish investment in our schools continues to absorb an increasing percentage of parish funds available to support other parish ministries.



# OUR PRIESTS ARE AGING

- 35% of our diocesan priests (74 priests) serving in parishes are 65 years of age or older.
- These 74 priests could retire in the next 10 years.
- Though priests' retirement age is 75, the average of retirement for our diocesan priests has been 71.
- By 2026, we will have fewer diocesan priests to serve in parishes than the number of parishes we have.
- Our largest parishes will still need to be served by 2-3 priests.



\* Excluding retired priests resident in parishes



# OUR FINITE RESOURCES NEED TO BE REALIGNED TO ENABLE VIBRANT MINISTRY



|                                  |     |       |       |       |       |
|----------------------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Number of Priests *              | 49  | 46    | 38    | 27    | 50    |
| Ratio of Parishioners to Priests | 619 | 1,416 | 1,996 | 2,704 | 3,411 |

\* Includes diocesan and religious order priests





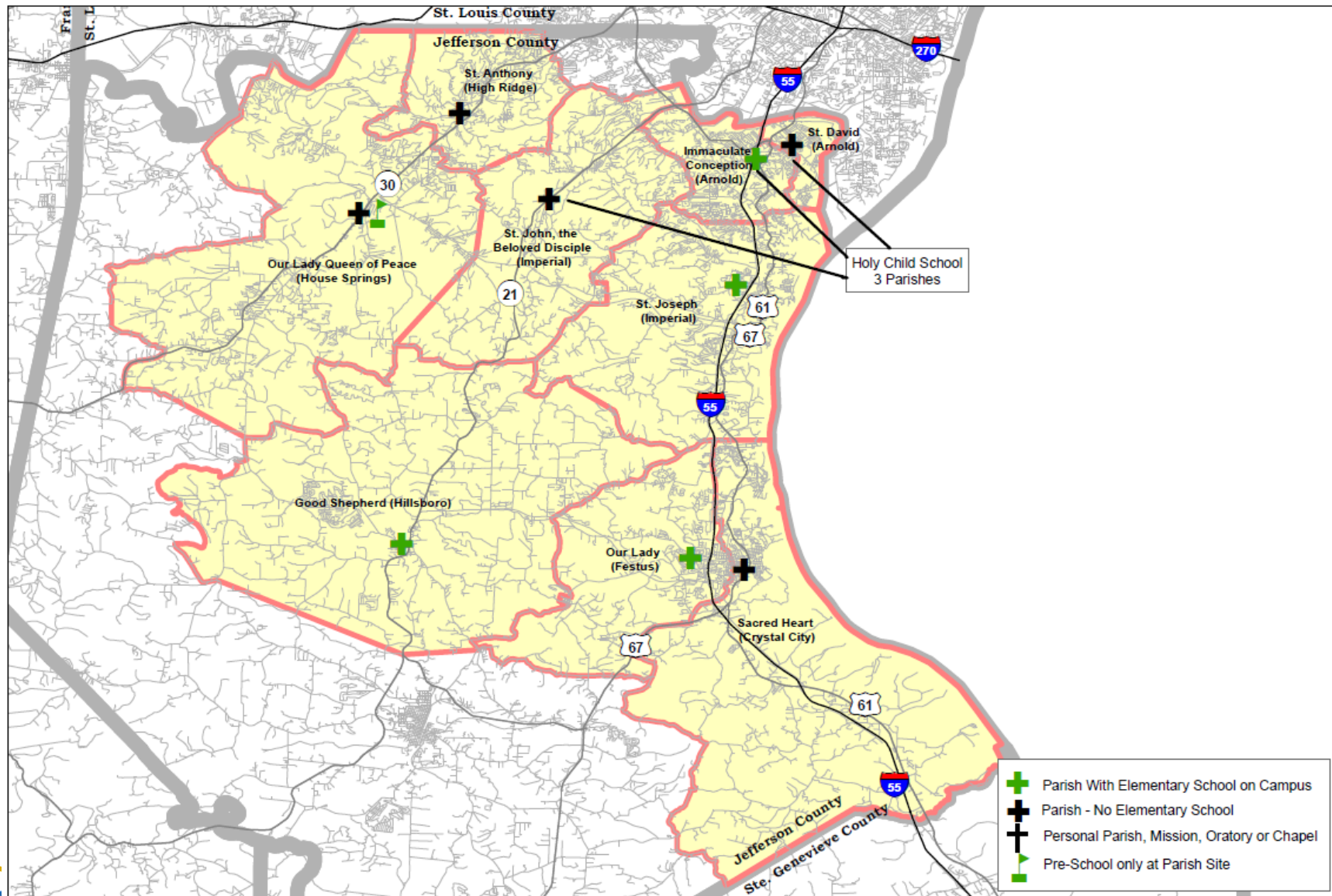
# ALL THINGS NEW

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OUR PLANNING AREA  
PLANNING AREA #13

# OUR TERRITORY FOR EVANGELIZATION





# ABOUT OUR PLANNING AREA

- The planning area is in Jefferson County. The geography of this area is defined by Interstate 55, Routes 30 and 21, Meramec River to the north and the Mississippi River to the east.
- Located in Festus deanery. There are 9 territorial parishes and 4 elementary schools. Currently there are 11 diocesan priests assigned to this group.
- Parishes and church buildings are located along Interstate 55, Highway 21, and Highway 30, but east-west travel is difficult.



## OUR PLANNING AREA HAS BEEN GROWING SLIGHTLY, WITH AN AGING POPULATION

- Total population in the planning area in the 2020 census was up 4% from 2010.
- The population 55 or older increased from 18% in 2000 to 29% in 2020.
- 15% of the population is registered Catholic, which is lower than the Diocesan average of 18%.
- Median household income in the area is \$66,481, which is above the archdiocesan average of \$60,700.



# OUR PLANNING AREA DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

| (U.S. Census Data)      | 1990    | 2000    | 2010    | 2020    |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Population              | 131,807 | 152,971 | 174,093 | 181,798 |
| Percent Change          |         | 16%     | 14%     | 4%      |
| Households              | 44,990  | 54,736  | 64,458  | 69,209  |
| Percent Change          |         | 22%     | 18%     | 7%      |
| Population              |         |         |         |         |
| White                   | 129,808 | 149,097 | 167,905 | 164,493 |
| Percent of Total        | 98%     | 97%     | 96%     | 90%     |
| Black                   | 1,009   | 1,064   | 1,470   | 1,910   |
| Percent of Total        | 1%      | 1%      | 1%      | 1%      |
| Other/Multi-Race        | 991     | 2,811   | 4,718   | 15,395  |
| Percent of Total        | 1%      | 2%      | 3%      | 8%      |
| Hispanic (not a race)   | 914     | 1,568   | 2,772   | 4,340   |
| Percent of Total        | 1%      | 1%      | 2%      | 2%      |
| % of Population Age 55+ | 15%     | 18%     | 23%     | 29%     |

## 2020 Data

% of Households - Renters 20%

% of Households - Single Person Living Alone 21%

### Median Household Income

Planning Area \$ 66,481

Archdiocese \$ 60,700

## 2021 Data

% of Population Registered Catholic

Planning Area 15%

Archdiocese 18%

No. of Catholic School Children in Planning Area 1,001

## 2017-2021 (Five-Year Average)

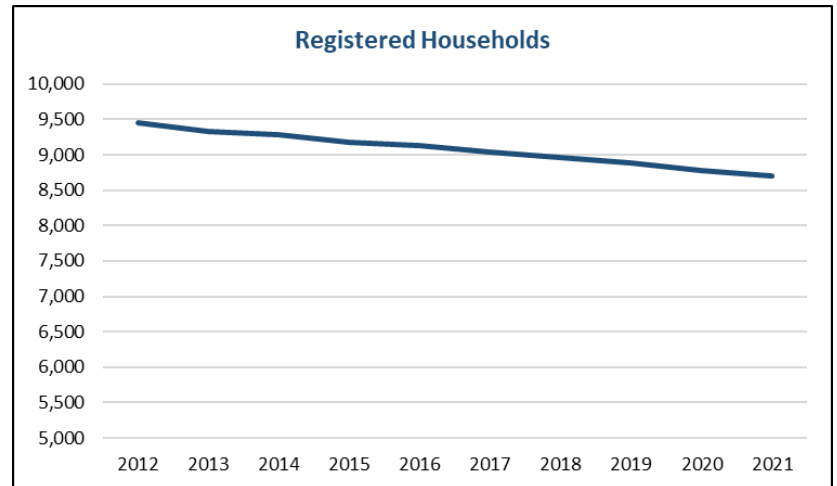
% 8th Grade Students to Catholic High Schools 84%



# OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS

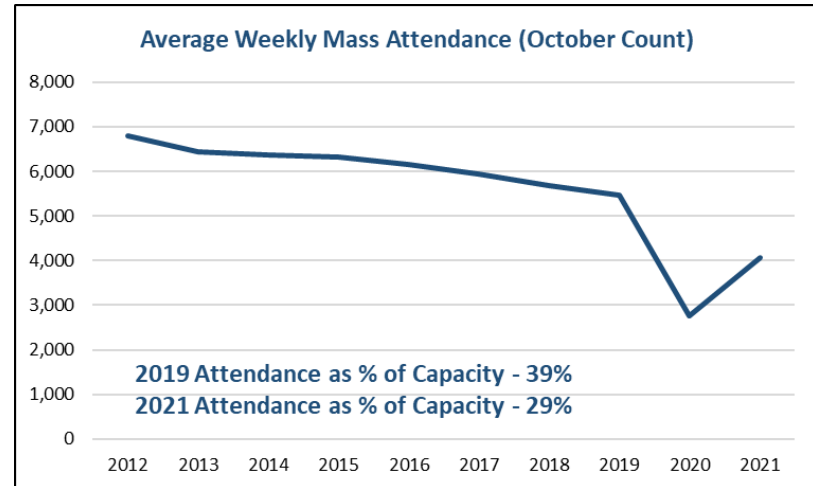
- Registered households in the planning area declined by 8% during the past decade, compared to a decline of 7% for the diocese.



# OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## MASS ATTENDANCE

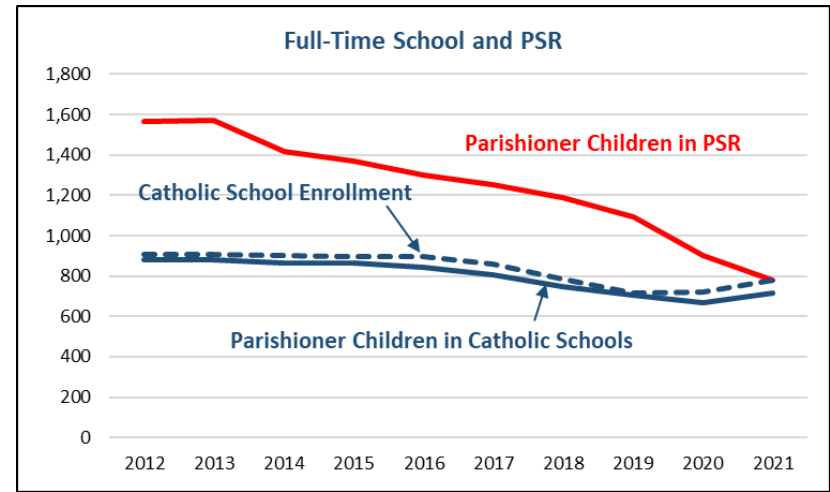
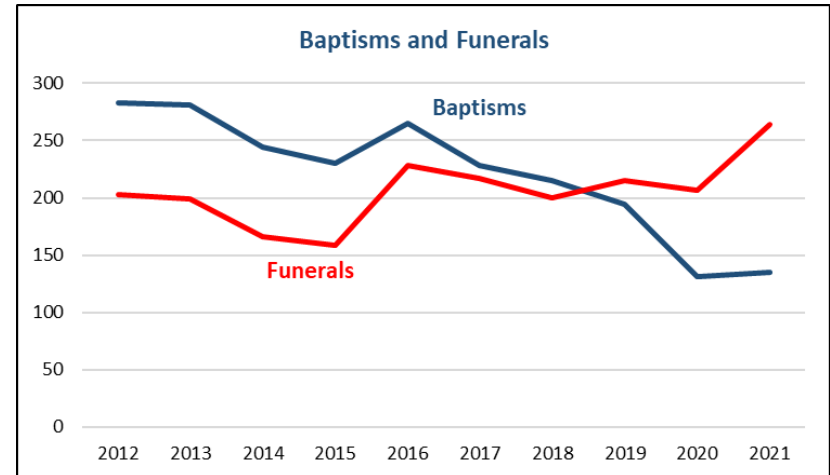
- Mass attendance declined 30% during the decade, the same the archdiocese as a whole.
- Mass attendance as percent of capacity was above the archdiocesan average of 35% in 2019 and 25% in 2021.



# OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, & K-8 FORMATION

- Baptisms have been declining and funerals increasing, though the 2020 and 2021 funeral counts are impacted by a parish that has a special and significant funeral ministry.
- Catholic school enrollment has decline by 14% during the past decade, compared to 22% for the diocese as a whole.
- PSR enrollment declined by 50% during the past decade, the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest decline of any planning area.





# OUR PLANNING AREA

## MINISTRY TRENDS

|   | Registered Parishioner Households |       | Number of Catholics | Weekend Mass Attendance |       | Church Capacity | Baptisms                    | Funerals | Parishioner Children in:            |                 |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
|   |                                   |       |                     |                         |       |                 | Five Year Average 2017-2021 |          | Catholic Schools (Include Privates) | Traditional PSR |
|   | 2011                              | 2021  | 2021                | 2019                    | 2021  |                 |                             |          |                                     |                 |
| Good Shepherd (Hillsborro)                | 662                               | 615   | 1,680               | 443                     | 324   | 140             | 11                          | 13       | 52                                  | 44              |
| Immaculate Conception (Arnold)            | 1,470                             | 1,319 | 3,945               | 675                     | 384   | 400             | 29                          | 28       | 150                                 | 120             |
| Our Lady (Festus)                         | 985                               | 971   | 2,569               | 648                     | 609   | 530             | 23                          | 23       | 136                                 | 84              |
| Our Lady Queen of Peace (House Springs)   | 1,100                             | 779   | 2,150               | 486                     | 353   | 600             | 15                          | 32       | 28                                  | 80              |
| Sacred Heart (Crystal City)               | 1,155                             | 1,120 | 2,625               | 555                     | 403   | 316             | 12                          | 46       | 22                                  | 55              |
| St. Anthony (High Ridge)                  | 895                               | 885   | 2,510               | n/a *                   | n/a * | 350             | 14                          | 15       | 27                                  | 112             |
| St. David (Arnold)                        | 712                               | 638   | 1,715               | 438                     | 327   | 500             | 10                          | 13       | 14                                  | 45              |
| St. John, the Beloved Disciple (Imperial) | 467                               | 393   | 1,070               | 320                     | 227   | 350             | 8                           | 26       | 8                                   | 26              |
| St. Joseph (Imperial)                     | 1,985                             | 1,975 | 6,230               | 1,450                   | 1,090 | 500             | 59                          | 26       | 279                                 | 216             |
| TOTAL                                     | 9,431                             | 8,695 | 24,494              | 5,015                   | 3,717 |                 | 181                         | 221      | 716                                 | 782             |

\* St. Anthony (High Ridge) parish does not participate in the October Mass Counts



# OUR PLANNING AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT IS DECLINING

- The four elementary schools in this planning area have 781 children enrolled in Catholic elementary schools, down 13% from 5 years ago.
- Most schools draw heavily from outside their parish boundaries.
- The number of students going to Catholic elementary schools from the parishes in the planning area is 716.
- There are 782 students enrolled in PSR in 2021, down 40% from 5 years earlier.



# OUR PLANNING AREA

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRENDS

|   | 2021-22             | 2021-22                                  | 2021-22 vs 2016-17                              | 2021-22                                   | 2021-22  |
|---|---------------------|--|---|---|--|
|   | Enrollment<br>(K-8) | Enrollment<br>(Pre-K)<br>PK 3-4 & PK 4-5 | 5 Year Percent<br>Change in (K-8)<br>Enrollment | % K-8 Students<br>Registered in<br>Parish | % K-8 Students<br>Living in Parish<br>Boundaries |
| Good Shepherd - Hillsboro                     | 77                  | 37                                       | 5%  | 58%                                       | 58%  |
| Holy Child School - Arnold (3 parishes)       | 201                 | 58                                       | 2%  | 80%                                       | 62%  |
| Our Lady - Festus                             | 170                 | 56                                       | (34%)   | 73%                                       | 41%  |
| St. Joseph - Imperial                         | 333                 | 88                                       | 27%   | 81%                                       | 55%  |
| TOTAL (% Change includes schools that closed) | 781                 | 239                                      | (13%)   | n/a                                       | n/a  |





# ALL THINGS NEW

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OUR PARISH  
ST. JOSEPH - IMPERIAL

# ABOUT OUR PARISH

- St. Joseph parish is by far the largest parish and has the largest school in the Festus Deanery and Jefferson County. But the parish had humble beginnings in a quaint, small Mississippi River community of Kimmswick which began in 1876. For generations, this was a small parish, but the area began to grow in the 1970s and as it began to grow rapidly, a new location was needed. So in 1998, the parish moved to its new location and built a new church and school and, more recently, offices and a large parish center.
- This is a parish of 2000 households and 333 students in the parish school. The parish church seats 500. The parish manages its own cemetery which is located at the previous parish location in Kimmswick.



# ABOUT OUR PARISH

- After rapid growth in the two previous decades, population growth slowed to 6% between 2010 and 2020. But population is still up 80% over the past 30 years.
- Growth in the parish seems to have plateaued but baptisms are strong though declining slightly, school enrollment has grown, Mass attendance pre-COVID had actually grown, but PSR enrollment is declining.
- Offertory is growing, but the parish will need to continue to grow revenues faster than expense to pay down its debt.





# OUR PARISH AREA HAS GROWN RAPIDLY IN THE LAST 30 YEARS BENEFITING FROM MIGRATION FROM SOUTH COUNTY

- Though growth has slowed from previous decades, the parish has continued to grow and has the largest population of any parish area in Jefferson County
  - Location along I-55 and Highways 61 and 67 have facilitated travel into St. Louis City and St. Louis County
- Though the area is aging somewhat, with the percent people age 55 older doubling in the last 30 years from 12% to 24%, this is the youngest demographic area in Jefferson County.
- Median household income is \$75,300 which is above the Diocesan average of \$60,700.
- 19% of the resident population is Catholic which is the highest in the county (compared to 18% for the diocese), reflecting the migration from heavily Catholic South St. Louis County.



# OUR PARISH

## DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

| (U.S. Census Data)      | 1990   | 2000   | 2010   | 2020   |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Population              | 18,916 | 26,193 | 32,145 | 33,943 |
| Percent Change          |        | 38%    | 23%    | 6%     |
| Households              | 6,166  | 8,813  | 11,168 | 12,315 |
| Percent Change          |        | 43%    | 27%    | 10%    |
| Population              |        |        |        |        |
| White                   | 18,715 | 25,648 | 31,197 | 30,944 |
| Percent of Total        | 99%    | 98%    | 97%    | 91%    |
| Black                   | 45     | 60     | 169    | 301    |
| Percent of Total        | 0%     | 0%     | 1%     | 1%     |
| Other/Multi-Race        | 156    | 485    | 779    | 2,698  |
| Percent of Total        | 1%     | 2%     | 2%     | 8%     |
| Hispanic (not a race)   | 151    | 361    | 520    | 804    |
| Percent of Total        | 1%     | 1%     | 2%     | 2%     |
| % of Population Age 55+ | 12%    | 13%    | 19%    | 24%    |

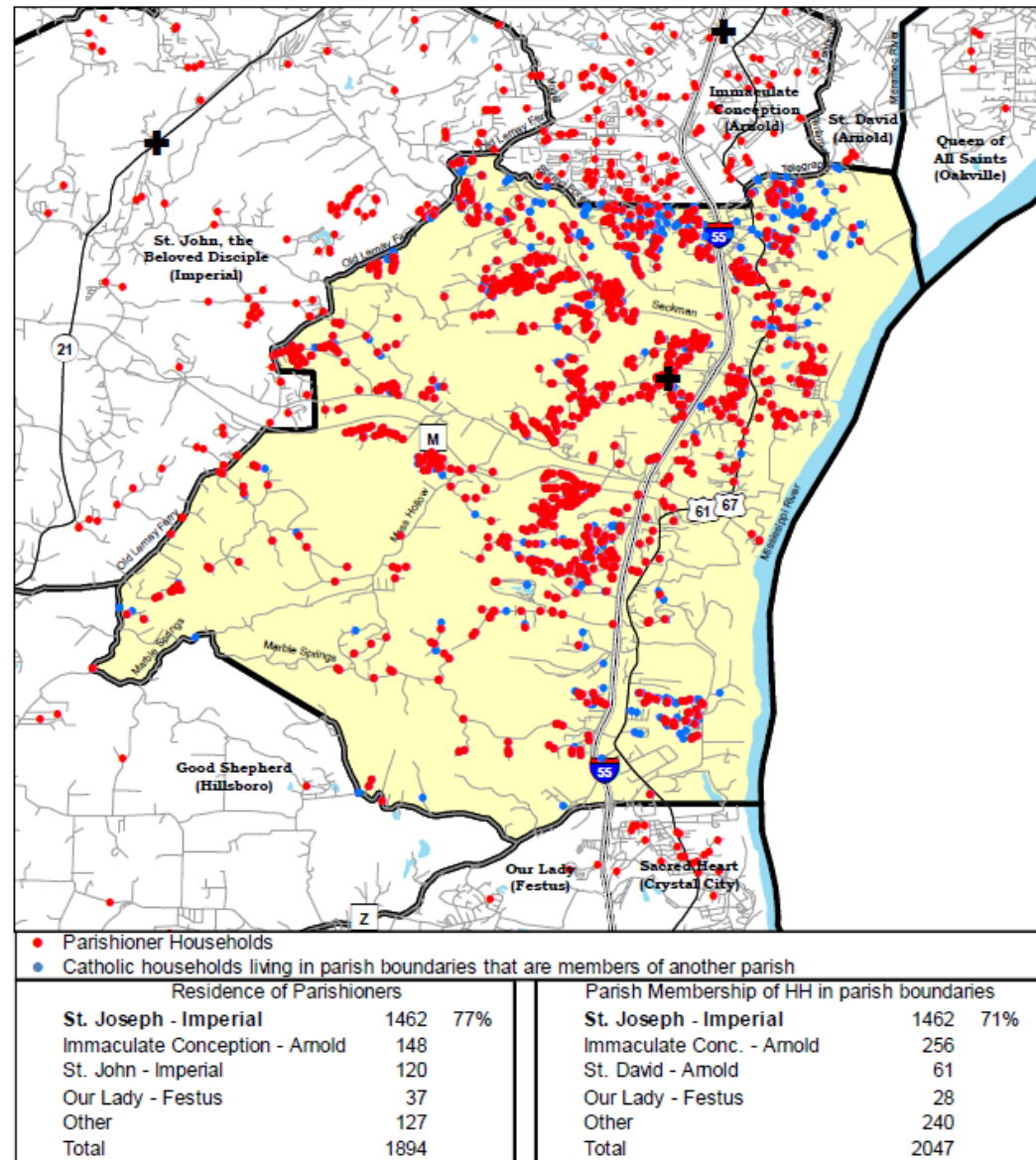
|  |          |
|--|----------|
| 2020 Data                                      |          |
| % of Households - Renters                      | 16%      |
| % of Households - Single Person Living Alone   | 15%      |
| -----  |          |
| Median Household Income                        |          |
| Parish Area                                    | \$75,325 |
| Archdiocese                                    | \$60,700 |
| 2021 Data                                      |          |
| % of Population Registered Catholic            |          |
| Parish Area                                    | 19%      |
| Archdiocese                                    | 18%      |
| No. of Catholic School Children in Parish Area | 263      |
| 2017-2021 (Five-Year Average)                  |          |
| % 8th Grade Students to Catholic High Schools  | 89%      |



# WHERE OUR PARISHIONERS & CATHOLICS LIVE

- Red dots are parishioner households; blue dots are Catholic households in the boundaries that are registered at a different parish.
- There are more Catholic households in the parish boundaries (2047) than there are parishioner households (1894).
- This is primarily because more Catholics in the boundaries are registered at Immaculate Conception parish (256), than there are households in Immaculate Conception territory that are registered at St. Joseph parish (148).

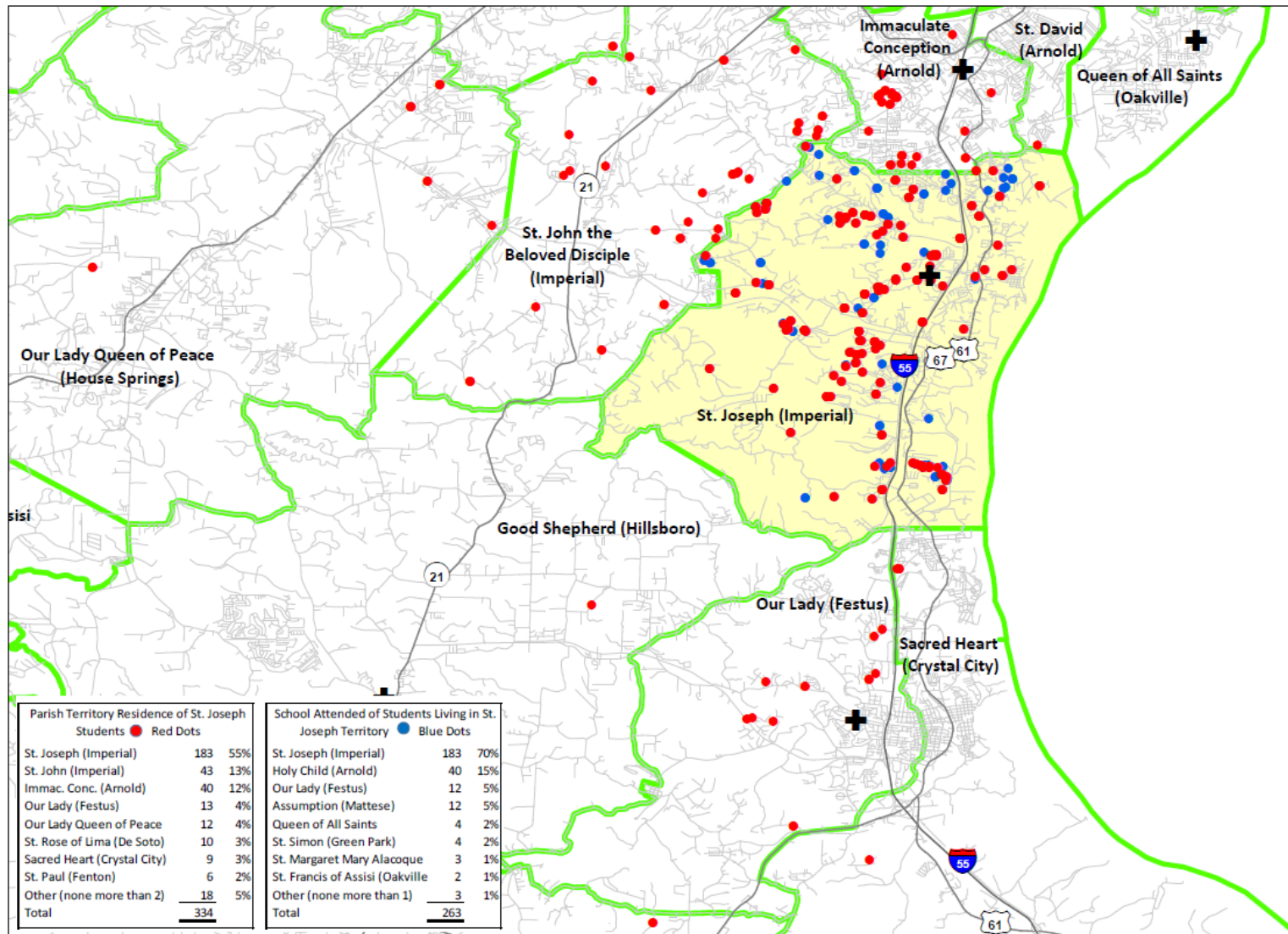
77 Percent of parishioner households live within the parish boundaries  
71 Percent of Catholic households living within the parish boundaries are parishioners



# WHERE CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS LIVE

St. Joseph (Imperial) - Residence of Students (K-8)  
2021-22

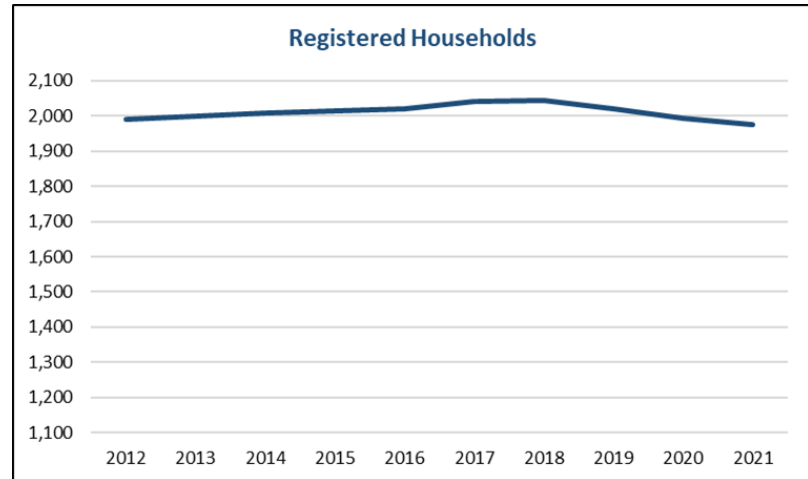
- St. Joseph school attracts many students from parish areas outside the boundaries that have schools or that have school sponsorship.
- A high percentage (70%) of school students in the boundaries attend St. Joseph school. Some Catholic families at the northern end of the parish territory probably travel north to a Catholic school because of parents travelling to work.



# OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS

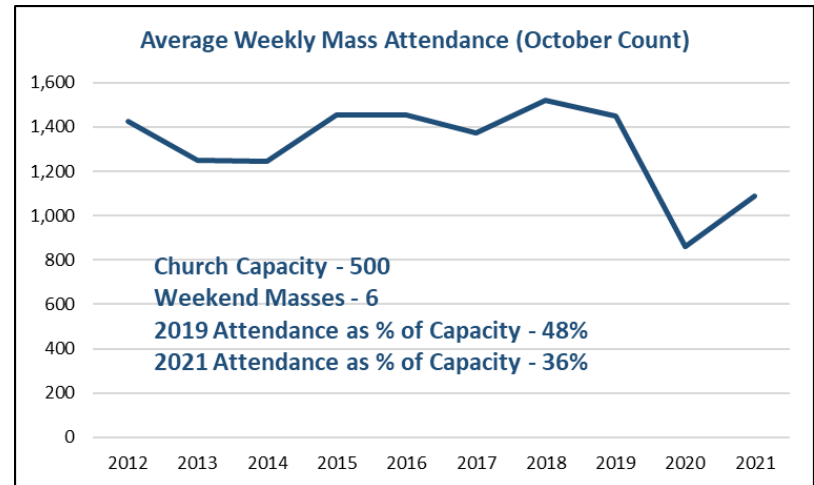
- Parishioner households have been fairly stable over the past decade. Growth seems to have plateaued.



# OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## MASS ATTENDANCE

- Mass attendance pre-COVID was growing.
- Mass attendance as percent of capacity is much higher than the archdiocesan average of 33% in 2019 and 25% in 2021.
- Pre-COVID Mass attendance percent of registered parishioners was 21-24%, below the Archdiocesan average of 27-29%.

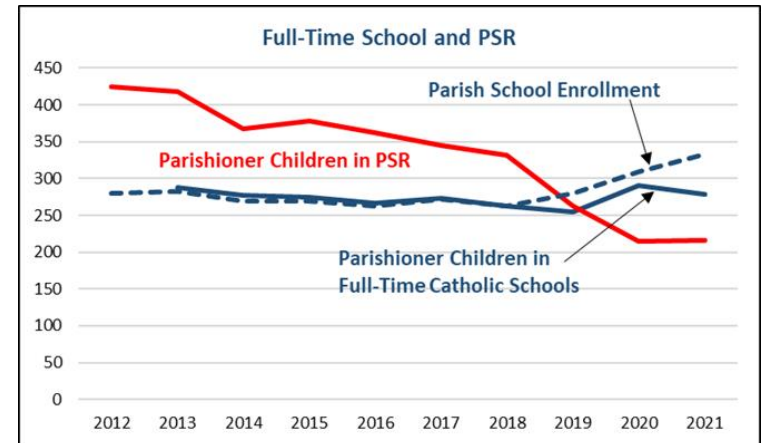
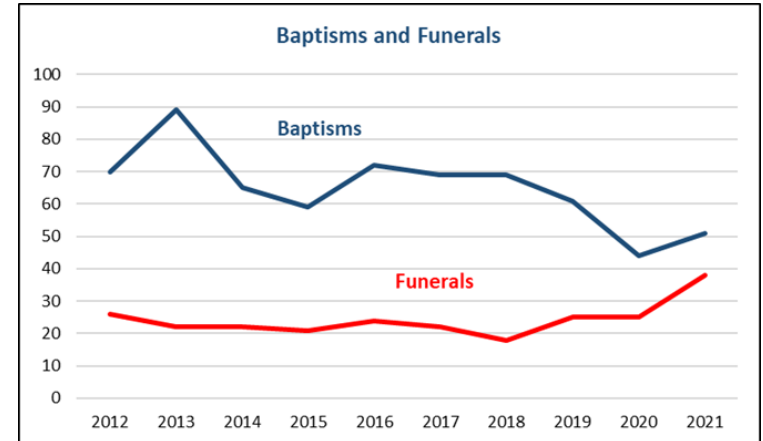




# OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

## BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, & K-8 RELIGIOUS FORMATION

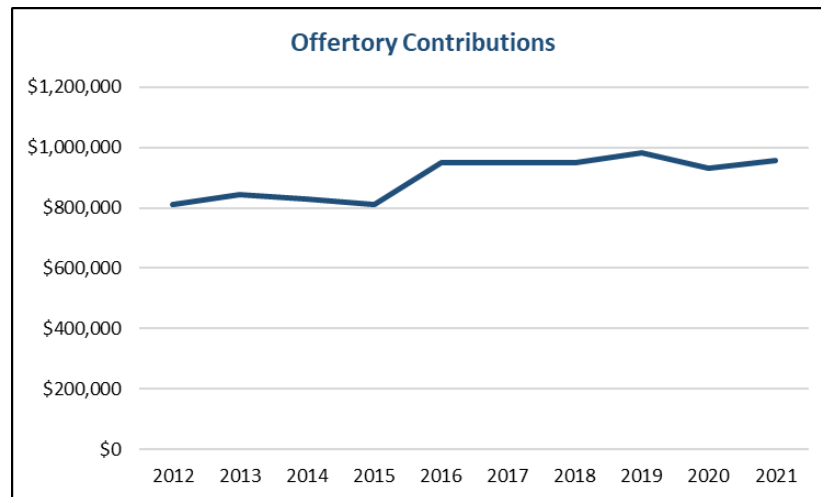
- Parish has a relatively young demographic with baptisms exceeding funerals. There has been a declining trend in baptisms.
- Parish school has been growing in recent years, both parishioner and non-parishioner children.
- PSR has been on a steady and rather steep decline over the past decade.



# OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

## OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

- Offertory has been increasing during the past decade, though the growth seems to have slowed.

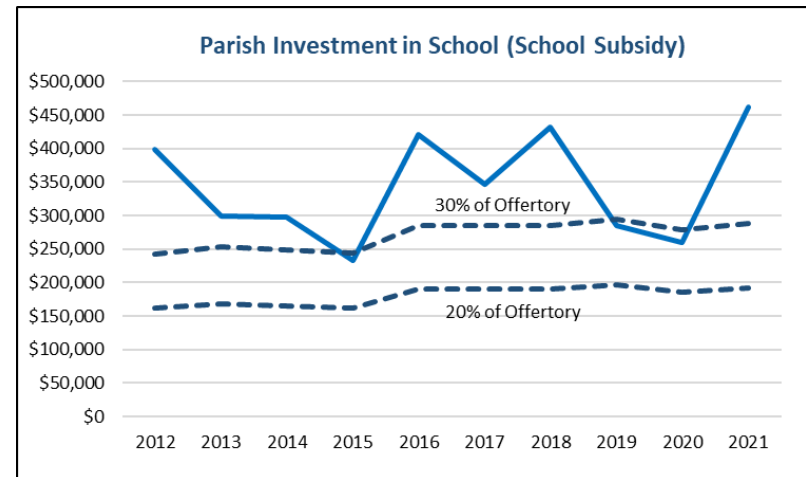




# OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

## INVESTMENT IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

- Parish investment in the day school has generally been above the recommended 20-30% of offertory giving.
- The increase in subsidy for 2021 was capital improvements to the school due to enrollment growth, safety and enhanced educational programs: a Maker space, a wet lab, and Atrium for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.



# OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

## PARISH FINANCIAL CONDITION

- The parish plant expansion has put the parish into debt. Will require revenues to continue to cover expenses and pay down the parish debt.

